WAKES COVE PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

March 2003

Approved by:

Date: March 25/03

Dick Heath
Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Mar 31/03

Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Stewardship Division

WAKES COVE PROVINCIAL PARK
Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role
The **primary** role of Wakes Cove Provincial Park will be to provide day use and overnight recreational opportunities for kayakers and other small boaters in a natural Gulf Islands setting. Located on the northern end of Valdes Island adjacent to Gabriola Passage, Wakes Cove Provincial Park offers a strategically sheltered anchorage in the northern part of the Gulf Islands.

Until a management direction statement is completed in 2004, no facilities will be constructed. Discussions with First Nations, island residents and interest groups/stakeholders regarding major concerns and management issues will be dealt with during the development of the management direction statement.

Secondary Role
The **secondary** role of the park is to protect representative upland forest and special features associated with the Southern Gulf Islands Ecosection. The park, established in 2002, protects natural and cultural values including early island settlement, archaeological middens, old growth Douglas-fir forests, and rare and endangered plant communities. The park lies within the Moist Maritime Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone (CDF mm). The marine foreshore protects an intertidal/subtidal marine biodiversity typical of high current rocky areas in the Strait of Georgia Marine Ecosection.

Known Management Issues	Response
Lack of information on plant and animal communities.	Complete inventory of plant communities, marine and wildlife habitats and rare and endangered species.
Lack of information on early island settlement, First Nations traditional uses of area and protection of cultural values.	Undertake archaeological overview to record middens and protect cultural values. Continue communication with First Nations on cultural values associated with Valdes Island. Discuss with Wardill family and islanders the early settlement of the island. Inventory and photograph buildings, fences artifacts, etc. associated with property. Establish management cooperation with First Nations regarding cultural values and marine resources associated with the park.
Inadequate management direction.	Initiate and complete in 2004 a management direction statement for the park. The management direction statement, when completed, will replace this Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan.

Zoning

The small area surrounding the Wardill family inholdings including the remaining homestead structures, wharf and Wakes Point will be designated Intensive Recreation Zone. A small Intensive Recreation Zone will also be designated at the south end of the park to provide an wilderness marine camping area for kayakers total of Intensive Recreation Zone is approximately 15 hectares or 7% of the park). The remainder of the park (approximately 190 hectares or 93% of the park) including the marine foreshore will be zoned Natural Environment. An existing towboat reserve is located between Kendrick Island and the park.

	Conservation	
Representation - ecosection	☒	Southern Gulf Islands Ecosection. This ecosection is under-represented with only 5.6% protected in PA system. One of more than 35 protected areas contributing to the representation of this ecosection – contributes approximately 4.7% of overall representation of ecosection thereby ranking in the top 10. This marine park protects 73 hectares of the underrepresented Strait of Georgia *Marine* Ecosection – provincial protection in PA system is 0.94% of which Wakes Cove protects 0.97% of total area protected ranking 11 out of 38.
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant	☐	Contributes to representation of the underrepresented CDF mm. The park contributes approximately 2% of the overall protected area representation of the CFDmm.
Special Feature	☒	Pockets of old growth forests, Garry oak and arbutus, rock shelves and sheltered bays. Marine biodiversity associated with a bedrock constricted high current pass.
Rare/Endangered Values	☐	Unknown
Scientific/Research Opportunities	☒	Marine biodiversity
	Recreation	
Representation backcountry	☐	
destination	☒	Provides limited sheltered anchorage and is located within a relatively short boat trip from major population areas.
travel corridor	☒	Located in the Gulf of Georgia marine corridor and extension of Southern Gulf Islands marine park system.
local recreation	☒	Regional recreation potential and destination use for boaters/kayakers.
Special Opportunities	☒	SCUBA diving

Education/Interpretation Opportunities	☒	Marine biodiversity

Cultural Heritage

Representation	☒	Traditional area of Lyackson First Nations and Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group.
Special Feature	☒	Middens; remnants of early island settlement (e.g. orchard, original homestead, snake fences, artifacts, farm buildings, etc.).

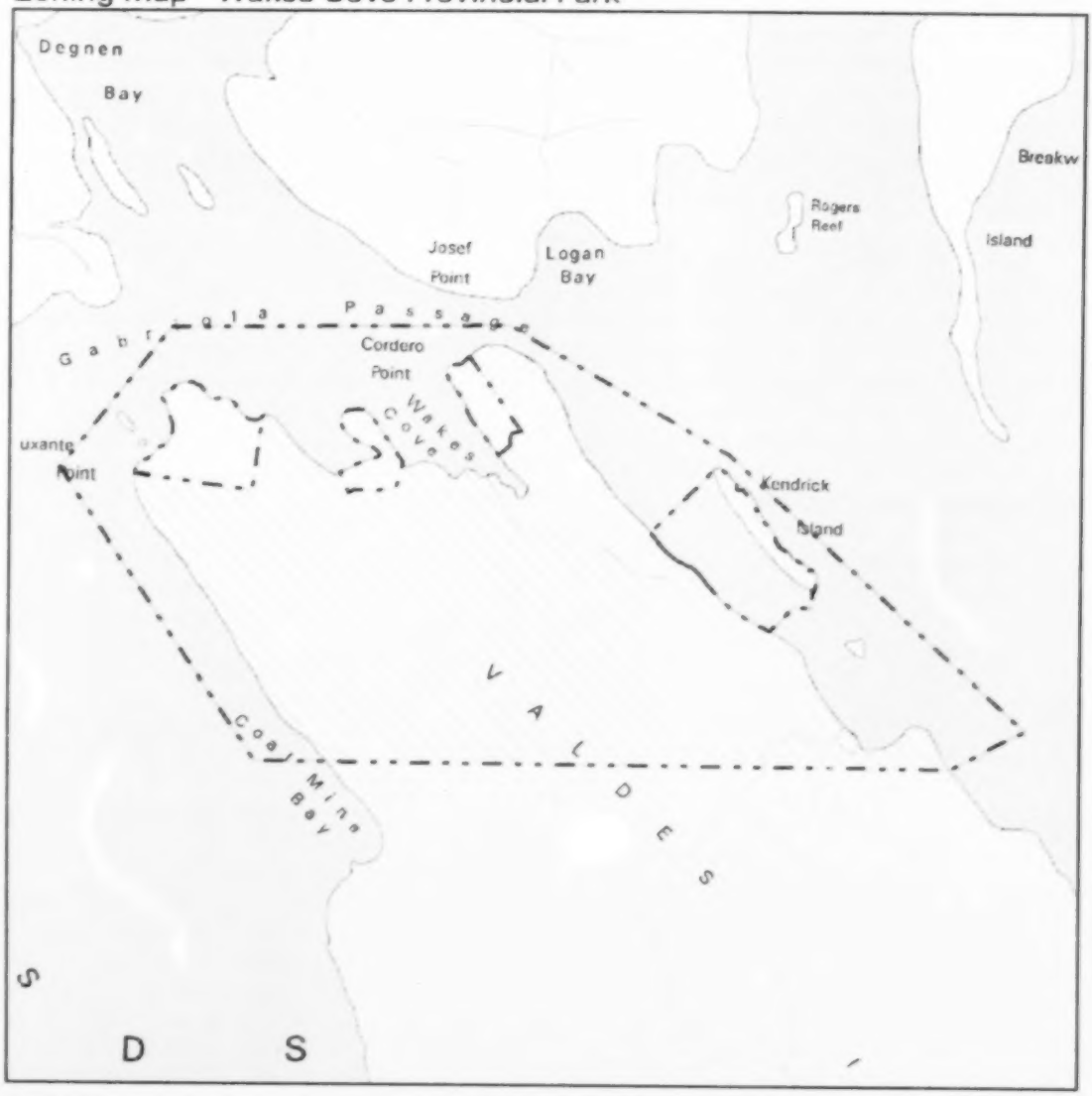
Other Management Considerations

Other Designations	☐	
Relationship to other PAs	☒	Part of a provincial marine parks system located in the Strait of Georgia. Close proximity to proposed Southern Gulf Islands National Park Reserve.
Co-operative Management Arrangements	☒	Maintain working relationship with local First Nations regarding cultural activities, archaeological sites, artifacts and managing cultural values.
Partnerships	☒	Seek cooperation from Valdes Island property holders and Wardill family in the undertaking of a stewardship program for the park. Liaise with DFO for federal designation under the *Oceans Act* of proposed Gabriola Passage Marine Protected Area.
Vulnerability	☒	Fire, invasive plant species and human impact/vandalism.
Relationship to other Strategies	☒	Islands Trust Official Community Plan and proximity to southern Gulf Islands marine park system (PMHL program and establishment of Gulf Islands National Park Reserve).

Area: 205 hectares (73 hectares marine foreshore)

Date of establishment: June 19, 2002

Zoning Map - Wakes Cove Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

Intensive Recreation
Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

0 500
m

Produced in Mar 2003 for
Ministry of Water, Land and Air
Protection by MSRM Decision
Support Services

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